

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a superconducting wire, comprising the steps of:

drawing a wire formed by coating raw material powder for a superconductor with a metal,

rolling said wire after said step of drawing, ~~and~~

sintering said wire after said step of rolling, and

~~wherein said method further comprises the step of holding said wire under a reduced-~~

pressure atmosphere in at least one of an interval between said step of drawing and said step of rolling and an interval between said step of rolling and said step of sintering, wherein during the at least one interval the wire is held at a temperature greater than or equal to 80°C and less than or equal to 300°C.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 1, wherein said reduced-pressure atmosphere has a pressure of not more than 0.01 MPa.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 1, wherein said step of holding is performed for not less than 72 hours.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 1, wherein said step of holding is performed in an atmosphere of nitrogen gas, argon gas, or dry air.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a superconducting wire, comprising the steps of:

drawing a wire formed by coating raw material powder for a superconductor with a metal,

rolling said wire ~~n times, (n is an integer not less than 2),~~ wherein n times includes a first time and where n is a finite integer greater than or equal to 2, k is a finite integer satisfying $n \geq k \geq 2$; and

sintering said wire n times, wherein n times includes a first time;

wherein the first rolling step of first rolling in said step of rolling said wire n times is performed after said drawing step of drawing,

the step of first sintering step in said step of sintering said wire n times is performed after said step of the first rolling step,

the step of k-th (k is an integer satisfying $n \geq k \geq 2$) k-th rolling step in said step of rolling said wire n times is performed after the step of (k-1)-th sintering step in said step of sintering said wire a n times,

the step of k-th sintering step in said step in sintering said wire n times is performed after the step of the k-th rolling in said step of rolling said wire n times, and

said method ~~further comprises the step of holding said wire under a reduced-pressure atmosphere in at least one of an interval between said drawing step of drawing and said rolling step of the first rolling, an interval between said first rolling step of the first rolling and said first sintering step of the first sintering, an interval between said (k-1)-th sintering step of the (k-1)-th sintering and said k-th rolling step of the k-th rolling, and an interval between said k-th rolling step of the k-th rolling and said k-th sintering step of the k-th sintering.~~

7. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 6, wherein said step of holding is performed in the interval between said step of the first rolling and said step of the first sintering .

8. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 6, wherein said reduced-pressure atmosphere has a pressure of not more than 0.01 MPa.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 6, wherein said step of holding is performed for not less than 72 hours.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 6, wherein said wire is held at a temperature of not less than 80°C in said step of holding .

11. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a superconducting wire according to claim 6, wherein said step of holding is performed in an atmosphere of nitrogen gas, argon gas, or dry air.